



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dedication of Star Sensory Motor Lab at Carver Elementary

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of some Carver Elementary teachers and the generosity of the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation, Carver special needs students have a new lab, and the name of Heaven Moore, former Carver PPCD student who passed away in May 2013 at the age of four, will live on forever at Carver.

The Star Sensory Motor Lab at Carver Elementary was dedicated to the memory of Heaven Moore in a ceremony December 11. The 4th and 5th grade choirs, under the direction of Vicki Westbrook, sang "Breath of Heaven" to open the ceremony.

Raul Moreno, area executive director and interim principal at Carver, welcomed guests. Dr. Tom Kelchner, director of special education, and Randal O'Brien, GCCISD acting superintendent, told the audience about the grants that were received from the GCCISD Education Foundation as well as Heaven Does, Inc., the foundation created by Heaven's parents, John and Gia Moore. They thanked Lisa McBride, SILC teacher, and Jennifer Owens, PPCD teacher, for their dedication to their students and for taking the initiative to apply to the Education Foundation for an innovative teaching grant.

McBride gave an overview of the lab, explaining that it was to help PPCD and SILC students develop skills to be ready to learn and master academic appropriate behavior.

"It is our hope that this lab will help our students develop the skills to increase their ability to attend in the classroom and accomplish tasks," said McBride. "Just in the short time we have been attending the lab, we have already seen an increase in time our students remain seated during group instruction. We are very grateful to the Goose Creek Education Foundation, the Heaven Does Foundation and Dr. Kelchner for making the Star Sensory Motor Lab a possibility."

Owens presented the plaque for the lab, which will ensure that Heaven's name will live on forever at Carver. Heaven had the opportunity to use several items now in the lab while she was at Carver.

"I know if Heaven were here with us, she would enjoy every piece of the lab," said Owens.

Heaven's sister Mary, 6th grade student at Horace Mann Junior School and former Carver student, held a cluster of pink balloons, Heaven's favorite color, that had been presented to the family.



After the dedication of the Star Sensory Motor Lab to the memory of Heaven Moore, former Carver student who passed away in May 2013, guests were invited to see the lab, which is still a work in progress. Pictured are (front, l to r) Jennifer Owens, PPCD teacher; Mary Moore, Heaven's sister; Lisa McBride, SILC teacher; Dee Baskin, Heaven's godmother and teacher at Crockett Elementary; (back, l to r) Francine Etheridge, Heaven's grandmother; John Moore, Heaven's father; Gia Moore, Heaven's mother; Dr. Tom Kelchner, director of special education; Randal O'Brien, GCCISD acting superintendent; Gilbert Santana, president of the GCCISD Education Foundation and Raul Moreno, area executive director and Carver interim principal.

On Heaven's birthday, they have released pink balloons in her honor, so they took the balloons and the flowers they received to the cemetery after the ceremony. Heather's grandmother Francine Etheridge and her godmother Dee Baskin, special needs teacher at Crockett Elementary, also attended the dedication.

John Moore expressed his appreciation to everyone for working with Heaven and for honoring their daughter with the Star Sensory Motor Lab.

"She was the best part of 'us,' and we were happy to share 'us' with you," he said.

Guests were invited to see the Star Sensory Motor Lab, which is a work in progress, to meet students working in the lab, and to hear about how it will help current and future students.

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